

Filed for intro on 04/13/98

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 651
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend United States Navy Vice Admiral Richard W. Mies.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize citizens who provide outstanding leadership in our armed forces, helping to preserve the basic freedoms we cherish; and

WHEREAS, United States Navy Vice Admiral Richard W. Mies, who currently serves as Commander, Submarine Force, United States Atlantic Fleet and Commander, Submarines Allied Command Atlantic, is one such exemplary person; and

WHEREAS, the U.S.S. Tennessee and the U.S.S. Greenville are under his expert command; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chicago, Illinois, Vice Admiral Mies graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and majors in Mechanical Engineering and Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Admiral Mies completed one year of postgraduate studies at Oxford University, in England, and holds graduate degrees in Government Administration and International Relations; and

WHEREAS, from 1981 to 1983, Vice Admiral Mies pursued postgraduate studies in the fields of diplomatic history and international law, politics, and economics at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and at Harvard University. He also attended the Flag Officers' Capstone

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course and program for Senior Executives in National and International Security at Harvard University in 1992; and

WHEREAS, after graduation from submarine and nuclear power training schools, Admiral Mies served on the U.S.S. Sunfish (SSN 649), a *Sturgeon*-class attack submarine from 1970 to 1973; and

WHEREAS, he served expertly as Engineer Officer on the U.S.S. Mendel Rivers (SSN 686) from 1973 until 1976; as a valued member of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board on the staff of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet Commander-in-Chief; and as an Executive Officer of the U.S.S. Nathan Hale (SSBN 623 0 (Blue)), a *Lafayette*-class ballistic missile submarine until 1980; and

WHEREAS, Vice Admiral Mies commanded the *Sturgeon*-class attack submarine U.S.S. Sea Devil (SSN 664) from 1984 to 1986, and under his able leadership the ship completed three major deployments and participated in numerous fleet operations, including surfacing at the North Pole; and

WHEREAS, following this important command, he became Executive Assistant to the Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Undersea Warfare), serving in that important position until 1989. Later that year, Vice Admiral Mies took command of Submarine Development Squadron Twelve, an attack submarine operation and the organization primarily responsible for the development of submarine technical guidance; and

WHEREAS, the highly regarded Vice Admiral Mies next served as Chief of Staff to the Commander Submarine Force, United States Pacific Fleet, from 1990 to 1992; as the Director of Strategic Target Plans and Deputy Director Plans and Policy on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Strategic Command from 1992 to 1994 and as Commander of the Submarine Group Eight and Commander of the Submarines Mediterranean from 1994 to 1996, before assuming his present assignment in June of 1996; and

WHEREAS, he has been widely praised for his extraordinary intelligence, knowledge, hard work, loyalty, and dedication, in carrying forth the duties of each of his assignments; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his unit and service awards, Vice Admiral Mies is the recipient of the Superior Service Medal (two awards), the Legion of Merit (four awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), and the Navy Achievement Medal; and

WHEREAS, his honors and accolades aside, Vice Admiral Mies is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his wife, the former Sheila McCann, and their two daughters, Rachel Anne and Sara Elizabeth; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor and commend Vice Admiral Richard W. Mies for his noteworthy service to his country as he leaves his present post; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Vice Admiral Richard W. Mies, express our deepest appreciation for his service and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.